



NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:
(202) 586-4940

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, March 26, 2009

Obama Administration Announces Additional \$16,956,700 for Local Energy Efficiency Improvements in Idaho

Block Grants to Support Jobs, Cut Energy Bills, and Increase Energy Independence

WASHINGTON – Vice President Joe Biden and Energy Secretary Steven Chu today announced plans to invest \$3.2 billion in energy efficiency and conservation projects in U.S. cities, counties, states, territories, and Native American tribes. This includes \$16,956,700 for state, county and city efforts in Idaho. A detailed breakdown is below.

Today's announcement builds on an investment of \$58,913,929 in Idaho weatherization and energy funding announced by the Administration on March 12th and detailed at energy.gov/recovery.

"These investments will save taxpayer dollars and create jobs in communities around the country," said Vice President Biden. "Local leaders will have the flexibility in how they put these resources to work – but we will hold them accountable for making the investments quickly and wisely to spur the local economy and cut energy use."

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program, funded by President Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, will provide formula grants for projects that reduce total energy use and fossil fuel emissions, and improve energy efficiency.

The funding will support energy audits and energy efficiency retrofits in residential and commercial buildings, the development and implementation of advanced building codes and inspections, and the creation of financial incentive programs for energy efficiency improvements. Other activities eligible for use of grant funds include transportation programs that conserve energy, projects to reduce and capture methane and other greenhouse gas emissions from landfills, renewable energy installations on government buildings, energy efficient traffic signals and street lights, deployment of Combined Heat and Power and district heating and cooling systems, and others.

To ensure accountability, the Department of Energy will provide guidance to and require grant recipients to report on the number of jobs created or retained, energy saved, renewable energy capacity installed, greenhouse gas emissions reduced, and funds leveraged. Funding is based on a formula that accounts for population and energy use.

“The Block Grants are a major investment in energy solutions that will strengthen America’s economy and create jobs at the local level,” said Secretary Chu. “The funding will be used for the cheapest, cleanest and most reliable energy technologies we have – energy efficiency and conservation – which can be deployed immediately. The grants also empower local communities to make strategic investments to meet the nation’s long term clean energy and climate goals.”

Funding for state, city, and county governments in the state includes:

ID	Idaho Total Sum City, County, and SEO Allocations	All	\$ 16,956,700
ID	Idaho	State Energy Office	\$ 9,593,500
ID	Boise City	City	\$ 2,039,200
ID	Caldwell	City	\$ 169,800
ID	Coeur d'Alene	City	\$ 191,700
ID	Idaho Falls	City	\$ 539,100
ID	Lewiston	City	\$ 139,100
ID	Meridian	City	\$ 608,800
ID	Nampa	City	\$ 753,800
ID	Pocatello	City	\$ 533,000
ID	Rexburg	City	\$ 123,200
ID	Twin Falls	City	\$ 183,600
ID	Ada	County	\$ 433,500
ID	Bannock	County	\$ 102,600
ID	Bingham	County	\$ 181,200
ID	Bonner	County	\$ 173,300
ID	Bonneville	County	\$ 177,100
ID	Canyon	County	\$ 238,100
ID	Elmore	County	\$ 122,200
ID	Kootenai	County	\$ 374,400
ID	Latah	County	\$ 151,500
ID	Twin Falls	County	\$ 128,000

In addition, today’s announcement includes funding for the following Tribal governments in the state:

ID	Kootenai Tribe of Idaho	\$ 25,000
ID	Nez Perce Tribe, Idaho (previously listed as Nez Perce Tribe of Idaho)	\$ 97,200
ID	Shoshone-Bannock Tribe of the Fort Hall Reservation of Idaho	\$ 147,900

(NOTE: If a Tribal government spans more than one state, the number above reflects the allocation for the Tribal government as a whole.)

More information on the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program is available on http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/wip/block_grants.cfm.

###